

085-DSC09341.JPG  
a new change of address which  
will be enclosed at the end of  
my letter.

I, like so many other Bath  
boys, am now living in one of  
the popular underground suites  
commonly called a fox hole by  
U. S. G. Is. You would be sur-  
prised how attached we become  
to these holes that we 'grubbed'  
out of the liberated French soil.  
And you would also be amazed  
at the construction of some of  
the more de luxe ones. They are  
as comfortable and warm as a  
single room in The Homestead  
what with the stuff a fellow can  
find laying around and make use  
of.

I have been unlucky in that as  
long as I have been overseas I  
haven't as yet met another boy  
from Bath cousty. And yet I see  
by your, or rather I should say  
"our" paper, that there are many  
over here. The only one I know  
is a fellow that came into the  
army with, and I have been with

ever since we joined up. He is Ivan Thomas of Thomastown. He is the only one I can see—and that infrequently — and have a good old “bull session” with about you people back there and the place we know as home!

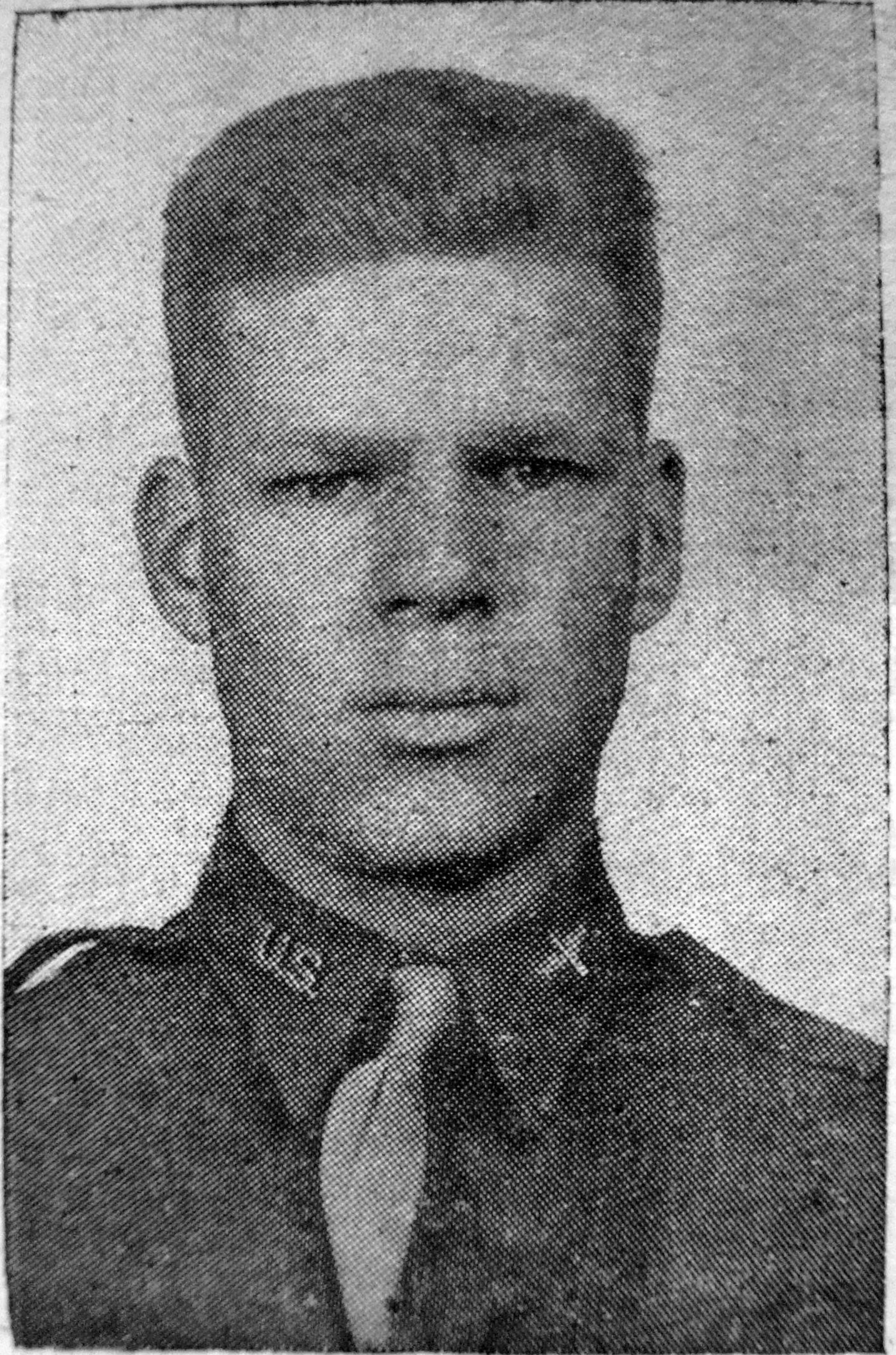
There's only one thing that I note in the paper that distresses me, and that is the deaths of so many of the old timers that link Warm Springs with the past. It is changing fast when observed from the side as we away from there see it. I only hope that when we all return, that we can fit back into the life of the simple and friendly living people we were before peace there in our valley was roughly interrupted.

But for the bad there is always the good, and that is the way you people are working together for everyone's good; namely the Co-op., the community lockers, and collective bargaining for the school cafeteria. All this shows that at least you can get together like the democratic country you live in.

Oh yes, before I forget, I would like to take this chance to thank Russell Durrett for buying a bond in my name. It makes me feel very warm inside.

Sincerely,  
Cpl. Cocheu Montague.

# FIRST LOOIE



Lt. George T. L. England

## Lt. George T. L. England

A Ninth Air Force Advanced Fighter Base ETO—The promotion of George T. L. England, Jr., of Hot Springs, from second to first lieutenant was announced here recently. He is a Thunderbolt (P-47) pilot in Colonel Wm. L. Curry's Ninth Air Force fighter group (Curry's Cougars) and flew five missions in the first two days of the invasion, giving cover to our advancing armies.

Lieut England, whose wife and daughter live at Hot Springs, has the Air Medal and two oak-leaf clusters. After receiving his wings at Spence Field, Ga., in March, 1943, he was stationed in Puerto Rico for several months, returning to the States last June. Before entering the service, he was graduated from New York University and worked for ... er and Company.

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# Pfc. Carl Bryan Lost in Invasion

JUN 22 1944

Mrs Wm. Bryan of Healing Springs was notified by the war department the first of the week that her son, Pfc. Carl Lee Bryan, had been "killed in action" on June 6 in France". The message gave no details of the action. June 6 was the date the allies launched the invasion.

The young soldier was 22 years old. Surviving are his mother; a sister, Mrs. Charles E. Ryder of Baltimore, Md.; and two brothers: William of Hot Springs; and Pfc. Louis Bryan who is now in Hawaii.

His father was killed several years ago while Rt. 220 between Warm Springs and Vanderpool was under construction. He fell to his death while dislodging loose stones from a bluff above the road.

The young soldier was inducted on February 20, 1943. He was an anti-aircraft gunner with the Twenty-ninth Division (Blue and Grey). The Twenty-ninth was was of the invasion spearheads.

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... would like to hear from  
anyone who cares to write.

## Miss Johnston Enlists in WAVES

JUN 22 1944

Miss Hazel Marie Johnston, daughter of Mr and Mrs. B. M. Johnson of Hot Springs and Waynesboro, Va., joined the WAVES (Navy) on June 7. Miss Johnston received her education at Waynesboro high school, and before enlisting in the service she was employed in the paper control laboratory of the West Virginia Pulp & Paper Co. She will leave on June 28 for Hunter College, N. Y., for six weeks indoctrination training. Miss Johnston has three brothers in the service: Sgt. Merlin Johnston is somewhere in India, Pvt. Rodney Johnston is stationed in Texas, and Petty Officer Garvice Johnston is somewhere overseas.

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Scrap Book

Dunham's Scrap Book

July 1931 - Sept. 1938

# Sullen Mountain Ranges Still Harbors Secret of Disappearance of Lieut. Bobbitt; Unfavorable Weather Impedes Search

GERALD P. McCARTHY

Planes And Hundreds Of Men Combine In Search

BROTHER LEADS PARTIES

Many Irresponsible Rumors And Reports Cause Delay

The sullen ranges of mountains between Uniontown, Pa., and Virginia Hot Springs continued to harbor the secret of the disappearance of Lieut. E. H. Bobbitt, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Bobbitt, of Hot Springs, as this article was written on Sunday—ten days after the youthful flyer had left Selfridge Field, Michigan, on a holiday flight to join his parents for Christmas dinner.

The facts of the tragedy may be summed up in a brief paragraph, Lieutenant Bobbitt left Selfridge Field in the middle of the morning on Christmas Day. Shortly after noon he checked in at Burger Field, Uniontown, and after a few moments for refueling, was again winging his way on his happy journey to his home.

Despite the tireless efforts of hundreds of men who have scoured the dense woodland country between Elkins and Hot Springs, along the path the flyer was presumed to have followed, and the persistent efforts of a dozen fellow pilots of the Army Air Corps who have traced and retraced the mountain airway, nothing further has been contributed to this factual summary.

The efforts of this valiant corps of volunteer searchers who responded so wholeheartedly in an attempt to aid a distressed family were being pushed forward more determinedly than ever on Sunday and there were high hopes that the missing plane and the body of the popular Hot Springs youth would be recovered before the passage of many more days.

Paul Bobbitt, devoted brother of the missing pilot, returned from the South on Saturday and led new ground parties into remote sections of the treacherous mountain country.

The growing lack of the army searchers was made more difficult by the passage of days by the mass of irresponsible rumor and report that raised its insidious head immediately after the report of the disappearance of Lieutenant Bobbitt.

## Missing Airman



Associated Press Photo  
Lieut. E. H. Bobbitt, 24, was sought by army airmen and ground searching parties in the Blue Ridge mountains south of Uniontown, Pa., where he disappeared enroute from Mt. Clemens, Mich., to Hot Springs, Va., on a vacation jaunt.

Unwilling to pass up the slightest clue as to the whereabouts of the missing plane, searchers followed up every whispering from the mountain country only to return from tiring missions dejected and discouraged to report another mirage.

Today — ten days after Lieutenant Bobbitt's failure to arrive at Ingalls Field on scheduled time—not a ray of light has pierced the darkness enshrouding his disappearance.

It is true that the activities of the air and ground forces have practically eliminated a great expanse of mountain territory as the possible scene of the crash—for there no longer remains any doubt but that Bobbitt was forced down in an impossible section of the mountain country. Remaining for the planes to comb, whenever the weather would permit a renewal of the air search, was the country lying between Uniontown and Elkins, West Virginia, and that great area of country lying to the West and South of the Cheat Mountains. It

Local And Other Officials Giving Their Full Support

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To certain individuals aiding in the work of seeking the lost flyer, great credit must be given. Mr. William J. Mathews, Chief Engineer of the Virginia Hot Springs Company, has directed the air forces with the strategy of a field general. Long before the arrival of the planes from Selfridge Field, Mr. Mathews had prepared detailed topographical maps of the entire area in which Lieutenant Bobbitt must have fallen. By the aid of these maps the air forces have been able to eliminate little by little the territory of concealment and have now reduced almost one-half the country which must be scoured.

The material necessities of the air corps, in other respects, have also been anticipated. Food and hot coffee have been on hand to restore the returning pilots. Foreseeing the possibility of a long search, Mr. Mathews

requisitioned carloads of gas and oil that the air corps might continue their efforts without interruption.

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On the second day when Mr. Mathews had finally induced the authorities at Selfridge field to send out planes to search for the flyer, the Hot Springs Company engineer called Phillips and asked that a temporary landing field be prepared near Elkins.

"We'll have a field marked out and ready for the planes in one hour," was the prompt reply.

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